

**REPORT OF THE AUDIT OF THE
HARRISON COUNTY
SHERIFF'S SETTLEMENT - 2005 TAXES**

March 31, 2006



**CRIT LUALLEN
AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS
www.auditor.ky.gov**

**105 SEA HERO ROAD, SUITE 2
FRANKFORT, KY 40601-5404
TELEPHONE 502.573.0050
FACSIMILE 502.573.0067**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**AUDIT EXAMINATION OF THE
HARRISON COUNTY
SHERIFF'S SETTLEMENT - 2005 TAXES**

March 31, 2006

The Auditor of Public Accounts has completed the audit of the Sheriff's Settlement - 2005 Taxes for Harrison County Sheriff as of March 31, 2006. We have issued an unqualified opinion on the financial statement taken as a whole. Based upon the audit work performed, the financial statement is presented fairly in all material respects.

Financial Condition:

The Sheriff collected taxes of \$5,977,382 for the districts for 2005 taxes, retaining commissions of \$197,805 to operate the Sheriff's office. The Sheriff distributed taxes of \$5,770,628 to the districts for 2005 Taxes.

Deposits:

The Sheriff's deposits were insured and collateralized by bank securities.

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CRIT LUALLEN
AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

To the People of Kentucky
Honorable Ernie Fletcher, Governor
John R. Farris, Secretary
Finance and Administration Cabinet
Honorable Dean Peak, Harrison County Judge/Executive
Honorable Bruce Hampton, Harrison County Sheriff
Members of the Harrison County Fiscal Court

Independent Auditor's Report

We have audited the Harrison County Sheriff's Settlement - 2005 Taxes as of March 31, 2006. This tax settlement is the responsibility of the Harrison County Sheriff. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on this financial statement based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the Audit Guide for Sheriff's Tax Settlements issued by the Auditor of Public Accounts, Commonwealth of Kentucky. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement is free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described in Note 1, the Sheriff's office prepares the financial statement on a prescribed basis of accounting that demonstrates compliance with the modified cash basis, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the Harrison County Sheriff's taxes charged, credited, and paid as of March 31, 2006, in conformity with the modified cash basis of accounting.



To the People of Kentucky
Honorable Ernie Fletcher, Governor
John R. Farris, Secretary
Finance and Administration Cabinet
Honorable Dean Peak, Harrison County Judge/Executive
Honorable Bruce Hampton, Harrison County Sheriff
Members of the Harrison County Fiscal Court

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated October 31, 2006 on our consideration of the Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

Respectfully submitted,

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Crit Luallen
Auditor of Public Accounts

Audit fieldwork completed -
October 31, 2006

HARRISON COUNTY
BRUCE HAMPTON, SHERIFF
SHERIFF'S SETTLEMENT - 2005 TAXES

March 31, 2006

<u>Charges</u>	<u>County Taxes</u>	<u>Special Taxing Districts</u>	<u>School Taxes</u>	<u>State Taxes</u>
Real Estate	\$ 645,046	\$ 1,200,747	\$ 2,445,800	\$ 880,469
Tangible Personal Property	52,453	86,413	161,019	271,674
Intangible Personal Property				44,714
Increases Through Exonerations	76	158	288	104
Franchise Taxes	61,209	105,873	192,770	
Additional Billings	34	71	130	47
Penalties	2,999	5,756	11,321	4,216
Adjusted to Sheriff's Receipt	(79)	9,951	(297)	(177)
Gross Chargeable to Sheriff	<u>761,738</u>	<u>1,408,969</u>	<u>2,811,031</u>	<u>1,201,047</u>
<u>Credits</u>				
Exonerations	2,967	11,656	11,059	4,102
Discounts	10,549	19,359	39,329	19,118
Delinquents:				
Real Estate	9,427	17,463	35,744	12,864
Tangible Personal Property	97	145	299	340
Uncollected Franchise Taxes	<u>2,112</u>	<u>2,322</u>	<u>6,451</u>	
Total Credits	<u>25,152</u>	<u>50,945</u>	<u>92,882</u>	<u>36,424</u>
Taxes Collected	736,586	1,358,024	2,718,149	1,164,623
Less: Commissions *	<u>31,592</u>	<u>48,475</u>	<u>67,954</u>	<u>49,784</u>
Taxes Due	704,994	1,309,549	2,650,195	1,114,839
Taxes Paid	703,801	1,307,837	2,645,753	1,113,237
Refunds (Current and Prior Year)	<u>1,193</u>	<u>1,712</u>	<u>4,442</u>	<u>1,602</u>
Due Districts				
as of Completion of Fieldwork	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>

* Commissions:

10% on	\$ 10,000
4.25% on	\$ 2,964,883
2.5% on	\$ 2,718,149
1% on	\$ 284,350

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

HARRISON COUNTY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT

March 31, 2006

Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A. Fund Accounting

The Sheriff's office tax collection duties are limited to acting as an agent for assessed property owners and taxing districts. A fund is used to account for the collection and distribution of taxes. A fund is a separate accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions related to certain government functions or activities.

B. Basis of Accounting

The financial statement has been prepared on a modified cash basis of accounting. Basis of accounting refers to when charges, credits, and taxes paid are reported in the settlement statement. It relates to the timing of measurements regardless of the measurement focus.

Charges are sources of revenue which are recognized in the tax period in which they become available and measurable. Credits are reductions of revenue which are recognized when there is proper authorization. Taxes paid are uses of revenue which are recognized when distributions are made to the taxing districts and others.

C. Cash and Investments

At the direction of the fiscal court, KRS 66.480 authorizes the Sheriff's office to invest in the following, including but not limited to, obligations of the United States and of its agencies and instrumentalities, obligations and contracts for future delivery or purchase of obligations backed by the full faith and credit of the United States, obligations of any corporation of the United States government, bonds or certificates of indebtedness of this state, and certificates of deposit issued by or other interest-bearing accounts of any bank or savings and loan institution which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or which are collateralized, to the extent uninsured, by any obligation permitted by KRS 41.240(4).

Note 2. Deposits

The Sheriff maintained deposits of public funds with depository institutions insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) as required by KRS 66.480(1)(d). According to KRS 41.240(4), the depository institution should pledge or provide sufficient collateral which, together with FDIC insurance, equals or exceeds the amount of public funds on deposit at all times. In order to be valid against the FDIC in the event of failure or insolvency of the depository institution, this pledge or provision of collateral should be evidenced by an agreement between the Sheriff and the depository institution, signed by both parties, that is (a) in writing, (b) approved by the board of directors of the depository institution or its loan committee, which approval must be reflected in the minutes of the board or committee, and (c) an official record of the depository institution.

HARRISON COUNTY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT
MARCH 31, 2006
(Continued)

Note 2. Deposits (Continued)

Custodial Credit Risk - Deposits

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a depository institution failure, the Sheriff's deposits may not be returned. The Sheriff does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk but rather follows the requirements of KRS 41.240(4). As of March 31, 2006, all deposits were covered by FDIC insurance or a properly executed collateral security agreement.

Note 3. Tax Collection Period

Property Taxes

The real and personal property tax assessments were levied as of January 1, 2005. Property taxes were billed to finance governmental services for the year ended June 30, 2006. Liens are effective when the tax bills become delinquent. The collection period for these assessments was September 20, 2005 through March 31, 2006.

Note 4. Interest Income

The Harrison County Sheriff earned \$13,985 as interest income on 2005 taxes. The Sheriff distributed the appropriate amount to the school district as required by statute, and the remainder is to be used to operate the Sheriff's office.

Note 5. Sheriff's 10% Add-On Fee

The Harrison County Sheriff collected \$17,246 of 10% add-on fees allowed by KRS 134.430(3). This amount is to be used to operate the Sheriff's office.

Note 6. Advertising Costs And Fees

The Harrison County Sheriff collected \$275 of advertising costs and \$275 of advertising fees allowed by KRS 424.330(1) and KRS 134.440(2). The Sheriff distributed the advertising costs to the county as required by statute, and the advertising fees are to be used to operate the Sheriff's office.

Note 7. Harrison County Fire Protection District Tax

On May 10, 2005, the Harrison County Fiscal Court created the Harrison County Fire Protection District. Per KRS 65.182(8), the effective date of the tax levy shall be January 1 of the year following the certification of the creation of the taxing district. Therefore, these taxes should have been collected for the 2006 tax year. However, these taxes were levied and collected during the 2005 tax year. The Sheriff's Office collected taxes totaling \$284,349 for the Harrison County Fire Protection District during the 2005 tax collection period. The Harrison County Fire Protection District is refunding these taxes. Taxpayers can contact the Harrison County Fire Protection District to apply for a refund of taxes paid for 2005.

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REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON
COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL
STATEMENT PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS



CRIT LUALLEN
AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

The Honorable Dean Peak, Harrison County Judge/Executive
Honorable Bruce Hampton, Harrison County Sheriff
Members of the Harrison County Fiscal Court

**Report On Internal Control Over Financial Reporting And On
Compliance And Other Matters Based On An Audit Of The Financial
Statement Performed In Accordance With Government Auditing Standards**

We have audited the Harrison County Sheriff's Settlement - 2005 Taxes as of March 31, 2006, and have issued our report thereon dated October 31, 2006. The Sheriff prepares his financial statement in accordance with a basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Harrison County Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statement and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a reportable condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements caused by error or fraud in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statement being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses.

Compliance And Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Harrison County Sheriff's Settlement - 2005 Taxes as of March 31, 2006 is free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards.



Report On Internal Control Over Financial Reporting And On
Compliance And Other Matters Based On An Audit Of The Financial
Statement Performed In Accordance With Government Auditing Standards
(Continued)

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management and the Kentucky Governor's Office for Local Development and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Respectfully submitted,

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Crit Luallen
Auditor of Public Accounts

Audit fieldwork completed -
October 31, 2006

